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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James M. Holden, William A. McGahan, Richard A. Yarussi,
Pablo I. Rovira, and Roger R. Lowe-Web
Nanometrics Incorporated

Assignee: Nanometrics Incorporated

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Washington, D. C. 20231

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97 and § 1.98, the documents listed on the accompanying PTO Form-1449 are called to the attention of the Examiner for the above patent application. Copies of these documents are enclosed.

Citation of these documents shall not be construed as:

1. an admission that the documents are necessarily prior art with respect to the instant invention;
2. a representation that a search has been made; or
3. an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 8, 2001.

Michael J. Halbert 10-8-01
Michael J. Halbert
Attorney for Applicants
Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,
Michael J. Halbert
Michael J. Halbert
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 40,633

LAW OFFICES OF
SKJERVEN MORRILL
MacPHERSON LLP
25 METRO DRIVE
SUITE 700
SAN JOSE, CA 95110
(408) 453-9200
FAX (408) 453-7979